

Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: 727-824-5305, FAX 727-824-5308

October 23, 2013 FB13-090

Commercial Harvest of Gray Triggerfish in South Atlantic Waters Reopens on October 28, 2013

The commercial harvest of gray triggerfish in federal waters of the South Atlantic from North Carolina to Key West, Florida, will **re-open from 12:01 a.m.** (local time), October 28, until 12:01 a.m. (local time) November 14, 2013. Updated landings data indicate the commercial annual catch limit for gray triggerfish was not met; therefore, NOAA Fisheries is re-opening commercial harvest of gray triggerfish.

The operator of a vessel that has been issued a federal commercial permit for snapper-grouper and that is landing gray triggerfish for sale must have landed and bartered, traded, or sold such gray triggerfish prior to 12:01 a.m. (local time)

November 14, 2013. The prohibition on sale or purchase does not apply to sale or purchase of gray triggerfish that were harvested, landed ashore, and sold prior to 12:01 a.m. (local time) November 14, 2013, and were held in cold storage by a dealer or processor.

Gray Triggerfish Commercial Size Limit:

During the re-opening, the commercial size limit for gray triggerfish is 12 inches total length off the coast of Eastern Florida only. Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina do not have size limits for landing commercially harvested gray triggerfish. There is no trip limit for gray triggerfish.